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ANNUAL REPORT.

CAMELFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year ending 31st December, 1935.

To the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Camelford Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my report for the year 1935, the subjects being dealt with as set out in Circular 1492 (England) Ministry of Health.

Social Conditions and General Characteristics.

Granite and Slate Quarrying, China Clay production and Agriculture are the chief industries in the district.

The Granite Industries are situated in the St. Breward District.

China Clay Pits in the Parishes of Advent and St. Breward.

Slate Quarries at Delabole and Tintagel.

The number of unemployed on the register of the Local Labour Exchange in December, 1935, was 195, as compared with 185 in December 1934.

In July, 1935, there were only 29 persons unemployed out of an insured population of approximately 1,700.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in Acres	52,544	
Population, 1931	7,548	Persons
Population, 1921	7,730	Persons
Population, 1934	7,305	Persons
Population, 1935	7,270	Persons (R.G. Returns)

Parish.	Area in Acres.	Population. 1921	Population. 1931	Rateable Value £ 1935.	Product of Penny Rate. £ s. d. 1935
ADVENT ...	4091	199	219	470	1 17 4
DAVIDSTOWE ...	6853	430	393	839	3 5 8
BOSCASTLE ...	3881	775	692	2429	9 7 0
CAMELFORD ...	4000	1307	1298	3712	14 2 5
LESNEWTH ...	2024	117	94	263	1 0 7
MICHAELSTOWE ...	1635	198	193	583	2 3 6
OTTERHAM ...	3295	197	199	514	2 0 2
ST. BREWARD ...	9435	862	881	2888	11 6 11
ST. CLETHER ...	2966	165	131	338	1 6 3
ST. JULIOT ...	2712	229	230	532	1 19 10
ST. TEATH ...	5905	1839	1893	4636	18 2 1
TINTAGEL ...	4422	1307	1234	5777	22 8 8
TREVALGA ...	1325	105	93	297	1 2 1
Totals	52544	7730	7548	23278	90 2 6

Total Rateable Value, 1934	£22,440
" 1935	£23,278
Total Penny Rate Product, 1934	£85 12 1
" 1935	£90 2 6
Total Number of Inhabited Houses, 1935 ...	2,261

Causes of Death.

		M.	F.
All causes		47	54
Respiratory tuberculosis		1	
Cancer		6	10
Diabetes			1
Cerebral hæmorrhage		3	7
Heart disease		11	12
Other circulatory diseases		1	
Bronchitis		4	2
Pneumonia			2
Other respiratory diseases		3	
Peptic ulcer		3	
Appendicitis			1
Other digestive diseases		1	1
Nephritis		1	4
Congenital causes, etc.		3	3
Senility		1	4
Suicide			1
Other violence		4	1
Other defined causes		5	5
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Total	3	3
	Legitimate	3	2
	Illegitimate		1
Live Births	Total	52	39
	Legitimate	49	36
	Illegitimate	3	3
Stillbirths	Total	4	
	Legitimate	4	
	Illegitimate	Nil	

The number of deaths for 1935 is 101 against 86 for 1934.

The number of births for 1835 is 91 against 107 for 1934.

The number of deaths from cancer for 1935 is 16 against 10 for 1934.

The nnmber of deaths from heart disease for 1935 is 23 against 12 for 1934.

The numbar of deaths from bronchitis for 1935 is 6 against 1 for 1934.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	91	52	39	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12·52
	Illegitimate	6	3	3	
Stillbirths	... ...	4			Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 13·07
Deaths	... ...	101	47	54	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 13·89

Deaths from pnerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis	Nil	Nil
No. 30 Other puerperal causes	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	62·62
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	54·94
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	10·99
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
,, Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	Nil

Section B.—General Provisions of Health Services for the Area.

1 MEDICAL.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

1 Part time Medical Officer of Health. Qualifications—L.R.C.P. & S. (EDIN.); L.R.F.P. & S.(GLAS.)

2 District M.O. under P. L. Administration.
Qualifications—L.R.C.P. & S. (EDIN.); L.R.F.P. & S. (GLAS.)

3 Part Time Public Vaccinator. Qualifications—L.R.C.P. & S. (EDIN.); L.R.F.P. & S. (GLAS.)

OTHERS.

4 Sanitary Inspector. Qualifications—C.R.S.I. (LONDON).

5 Public Analysts—Benedict Kitto & Sons, F.C.S., M.I.M.M. (LONDON); & Thomas Tickle, B.Sc. F.I.C. Exeter.

6 1 County Council Health Visitor.

7 Pathologist—Dr. E. Wordley, Plymouth.

8 Health Visitor—1 C. C. Health Nurse.

2 NURSING IN THE HOME.

1 There are Nursing Associations at Camelford, Boscastle, St. Breward, Delabole, Tintagel, St. Clether and Davidstow.

2 There are 7 Midwives (Certificated) practising in the area.

3 There is an Infant Welfare Clinic at Camelford. Meeting once a month under supervision of the Council's M.O.H.

4 LABORATORY FACILITIES.—All Pathological Specimens are sent to Dr. E. Wordley, M.D., The Prince of Wales' Hospital, Plymouth.

5 ANALYSIS (Water) (Chemical.) Samples sent to Benedict Kitto & Sons, City Road, London; and Thomas Tickle, Exeter.

6 ANALYSIS (Water) (Bacteriological.) Samples sent to Benedict Kitto & Sons, London; and Thomas Tickle, Exeter.

7 POOR LAW OUT RELIEF (MEDICAL.) This is dealt with by the Public Assistance Committee of the Cornwall County Council.

8 INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT (MENTAL.) This is dealt with at The Mental Hospital, Bodmin.

9 AMBULANCE FACILITIES. Camelford has now an efficient Ambulance Service which is doing good work.

10 HOSPITALS. (1) The Prince of Wales' Hospital, Plymouth.
(2) Royal Eye Infirmary, Plymouth.
(3) Cornwall and Devon Blind Institution, Plymouth.
(4) Rosamund House, St. Agnes, for Illegitimate Children.

11 TUBERCULOSIS. T. B. Treatment Centre, Tehidy Sanatorium, Redruth.

12 CLINICS. (1) Venereal Disease, Plymouth and Redruth.
(2) Maternity and Child Welfare. Rosamund House, St. Agnes.

13 ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT. Arrangements have been made for Clinic Treatment at the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Plymouth, for Children under the age of 12 years. There is also a centre for treatment open at Wadebridge for children residing in this area.

14 MENTAL DEFICIENCY. Visitor appointed by the County Council, supervised by the Mental Deficiency Committee.

Local Government Act, 1929.

This Act is worked by the Cornwall County Council. The Public Assistance Committee of the County Council is responsible for the administration of Poor Law and Sick Relief.

Legislation and Bye-Laws in force.

1 Public Health Acts, 1875—1925
2 Public Health (Buildings and Streets Act,) 1888
3 Local Building Bye laws, 1914
4 Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Order, 1885-1926
5 County of Cornwall Act, 1929, Sections 58, 68, 69
6 Housing Rural Workers Act, 1926

Water.

The District is well supplied with water. Camelford, Boscastle and a portion of St. Breward are supplied by the Council. The other part of St. Breward is supplied by the Bodmin Water Company.

Treveighan, Michaelstowe, Treligga and Trevalga have their own supplies.

Tintagel, Delabole and St. Teath are supplied by the North Cornwall Joint Water Board. The remainder of the District is supplied by wells.

During the year the whole of the Boscastle mains were renewed.

No. of samples taken for Analysis during the year—5, which were satisfactory.

Rivers and Streams.

The chief river in the district is the Camel, which rises near Davidstow and taking a S.W. course to within a short distance of Bodmin, then turning sharply N.W. it enters the sea near Wadebridge.

Tributaries to the river Camel are the river Allen which rises near Davidstow, and the De Lank river at St. Breward.

The river Inney flows through Davidstow and St. Clether.

The main drainage of the district is by the river Camel.

Scavenging.

This is carried out by the Local Authority. Camelford, Boscastle, St. Breward, Tintagel, St. Teath and Delabole have scavenging systems in force. Camelford has a weekly collection. Tintagel, St. Teath and Delabole are collected once a month. Boscastle is collected monthly in winter and once a fortnight in the summer months.

Scavenging should be carried out at least once a week.

Sewerage and Drainage.

Camelford has a Public Sewage System. Boscastle, St. Teath and Delabole are partly drained. It is to be regretted that no system or schemes have yet materialized for Delabole, Tintagel, St. Breward and St. Teath. These Parishes are badly in need of an efficient system of Sewage Disposal, and this question cannot be indefinitely shelved. Additional Filtration is required at the Camelford Outfall Works.

New W.C.'s constructed in lieu of Pail Closots	18
New Pail Closets constructed	4
No. of W.C.'s in the District (approximate)	1130
No. of Pail Closets in the District (approximate)	1110

Slaughter Houses.

No. in District	15
No. Licensed	5
No. Registered	8
No. of Knacker's Yards	2
No. of Inspections during the year ...	112
No. of Notices served	15

The Butchers' Shops in the District are on the whole in very good condition, clean, ventilated and lighted. There are no open-air stalls and most of the produce is delivered by motor vehicles.

Schools.

There are 12 Schools in the District.

Camelford	1	Secondary	Michaelstowe	1	Elementary
,,	1	Elementary	St. Clether	1	,,
St. Teath	1	,,	Otterham	1	,,
Delabole	1	,,	St. Juliot	1	,,
Boscastle	1	,,	Davidstowe	1	,,
St. Breward	1	,,	Tintagel	1	,,

Camelford, St. Teath, Delabole, St. Breward and Boscastle are supplied with water from the mains. The remaining Schools are supplied with water from Pumps, &c.

Milk.

There are 264 Registered Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk Shops in the District. Several Schools are receiving daily milk supplies.

Rag Flock Act, 1911—1928.

No action necessary during the year.

Smoke Abstement.

No action necessary.

Foods.

No action necessary during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

None in the District controlled by the Local Authority.

Playing Fields.

Camelford has a fine Public Park and St. Teath has a Playing Field. With these exceptions there are no others in the District. Delabole is making every effort to obtain a site for a suitable playing ground and it is hoped that before the publication of another report this will be accomplished.

The importance of open spaces and playing fields cannot be over estimated and every Parish and Town should be in possession of such.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year, 1935.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	7	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	11	1	Nil
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	4	1	1
Other diseases generally notifiable (specify disease)			
Other diseases notifiable locally (specify disease)			
Erysipelas	3	Nil	Nil

It is regrettable to note that there has been a considerable increase during the year of such diseases as diphtheria and scarlet fever.

This District compares favourably with regard to these diseases when the whole country is considered. However if more precautions were taken by parents it would go a long way to lessen the spread of infection. It would be an advantage if this fact were pressed home by all medical men in the District.

With regard to diphtheria, the method of combating this disease by means of active immunisation has been inaugurated in the District, but this has not met with the support that was hoped for. Where it has been tried it has proved in every way satisfactory and it is hoped that more advantage will be taken of this measure in future. It would be a distinct step forward if the method of immunisation could be placed on the same basis as that of vaccination. Referring to the scarlet fever it is doubtful whether five out of the seven cases notified were actually scarlet fever. However the usual precautions were taken.

Disinfection.

Disinfection is carried out after all notifications including Cancer and T. B. and after any other illness if considered necessary.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1935.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1				1				
5								
15								
25								
35								
45								
55								
65 and upwards ...								
Total ...				1				

It is gratifying to note that there has been but one case of tuberculosis notified throughout the year in the district.

Housing.

Housing conditions are generally and steadily improving. Much progress has been made during the past ten years. The Rural Workers' Act has been the means of reconditioning and reconstructing several properties and good work has been done under this Act, and it is hoped that more will be done during the coming year. 59 houses have been improved and reconditioned under the Act and 7 more are in course of completion. 8 houses have been built by private enterprise during the year.

The Housing Act, 1935 (abatement of overcrowding) will deal with the overcrowding cases. This will be dealt with in a future report.

1 *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 89

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 180

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... 50

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 110

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 2

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 10

2 *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices:—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 29

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3 *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—*

(a)—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :— ...	Nil
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

(b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	1
(a) By Owners	
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

(c)—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	1

(d)—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	1

The general condition of the District is progressive ; in many directions good work has been carried out, especially Water and Housing.

It would seem to me that the two outstanding features which call for attention are, the necessity for an efficient Sewage System in certain parishes, and also the provision of Recreation space where this is at all possible.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Camelford, 14th May, 1936. *Medical Officer of Health.*